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on February 15, 2007.

QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, P.C.

By: Deborah Berwick
Deborah Berwick

Appl. No.	:	10/826,919	Confirmation No. 1323
Applicant	:	Alexander Deiters, et al.	
Filed	:	April 16, 2004	
TC/A.U.	:	1632	
Examiner	:	Gebreyesus, Kagnew H	
Docket No.	:	54-000250US	
Customer No.:	22798		
Client Ref No.:	983.5/NOV0359P		
Novartis Ref.:	DC/4F-34044/SCR983/JTP		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 15, 2007, Applicants elect to prosecute Group XIV (claims 52-59) with traverse. Applicants further elect the species "a derivative of polyethelyne glycol" of claim 54. All claims of group XIV are readable on the elected species. Applicants understand that additional species will be considered if the elected species is found patentable, per 37 C.F.R. § 1.146.

Although essentially moot in the subject case in light of the election noted above, Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement because groups II and III can be combined without undue burden. Applicants respectfully submit that recombining these two groups will ultimately simplify prosecution for both Applicants and the Patent Office by considering these logically related claims in a single divisional application. Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of groups II and III on this basis.

In the event that a teleconference would be of any assistance in examination of the elected claims, please call the undersigned attorney.

QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, P.C.
P.O. BOX 458
Alameda, CA 94501
Tel: 510 337-7871
Fax: 510 337-7877

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan Alan Quine, J.D., Ph.D.
Reg. No: 41,261

Attachments:

- 1) A transmittal sheet;
- 2) A Fee Transmittal Sheet;
- 3) A petition to extend the period of response 1 month; and,
- 4) A receipt indication postcard.

